

PORTRAIT OF THE *King*



ATONEMENT

“The King Rises”

MATTHEW 28:1-15





The COMPLETELY UPDATED and EXPANDED CLASSIC

EVIDENCE THAT DEMANDS A VERDICT

LIFE-CHANGING TRUTH
FOR A SKEPTICAL WORLD

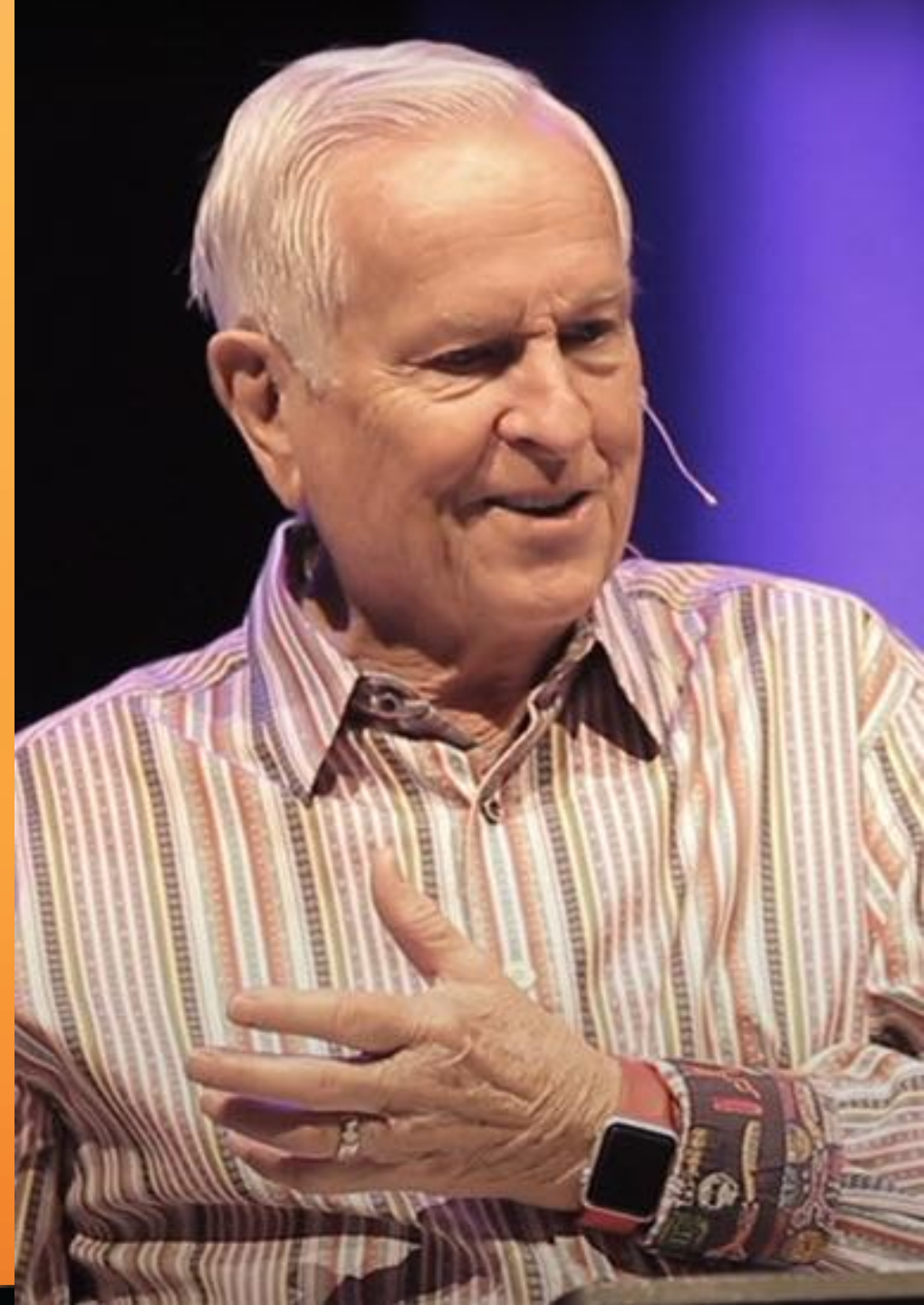


JOSH McDOWELL
& **SEAN McDOWELL, PhD**



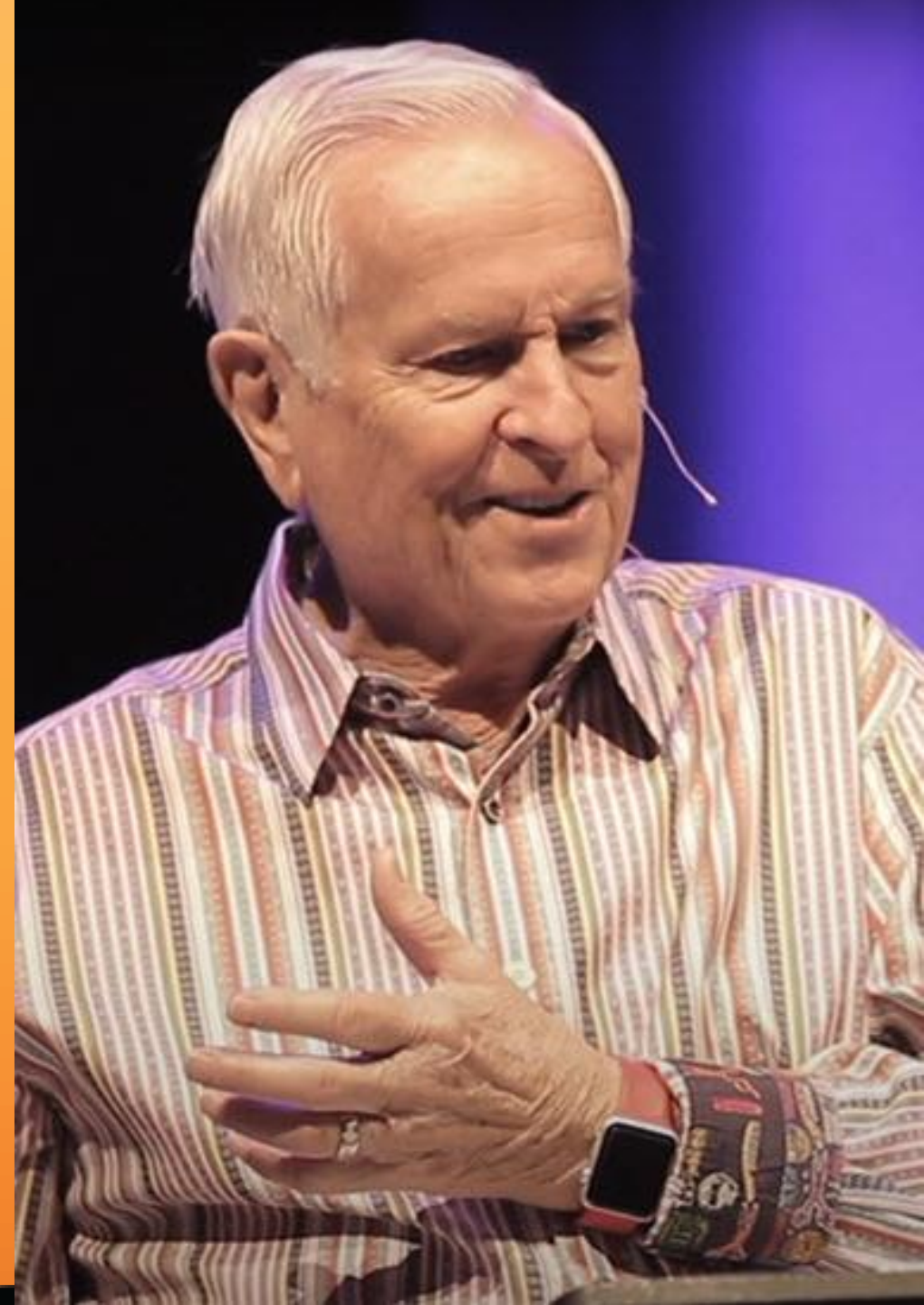
“After more than seven hundred hours of studying this subject and thoroughly investigating its foundation, I have come to the conclusion that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is one of the most...

Josh McDowell, *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*



“...wicked, vicious, heartless
hoaxes ever foisted upon the
minds of men, or is the most
fantastic fact of history. Jesus
has three basic credentials: (1)
The impact of his life, through
His miracles and teachings,...

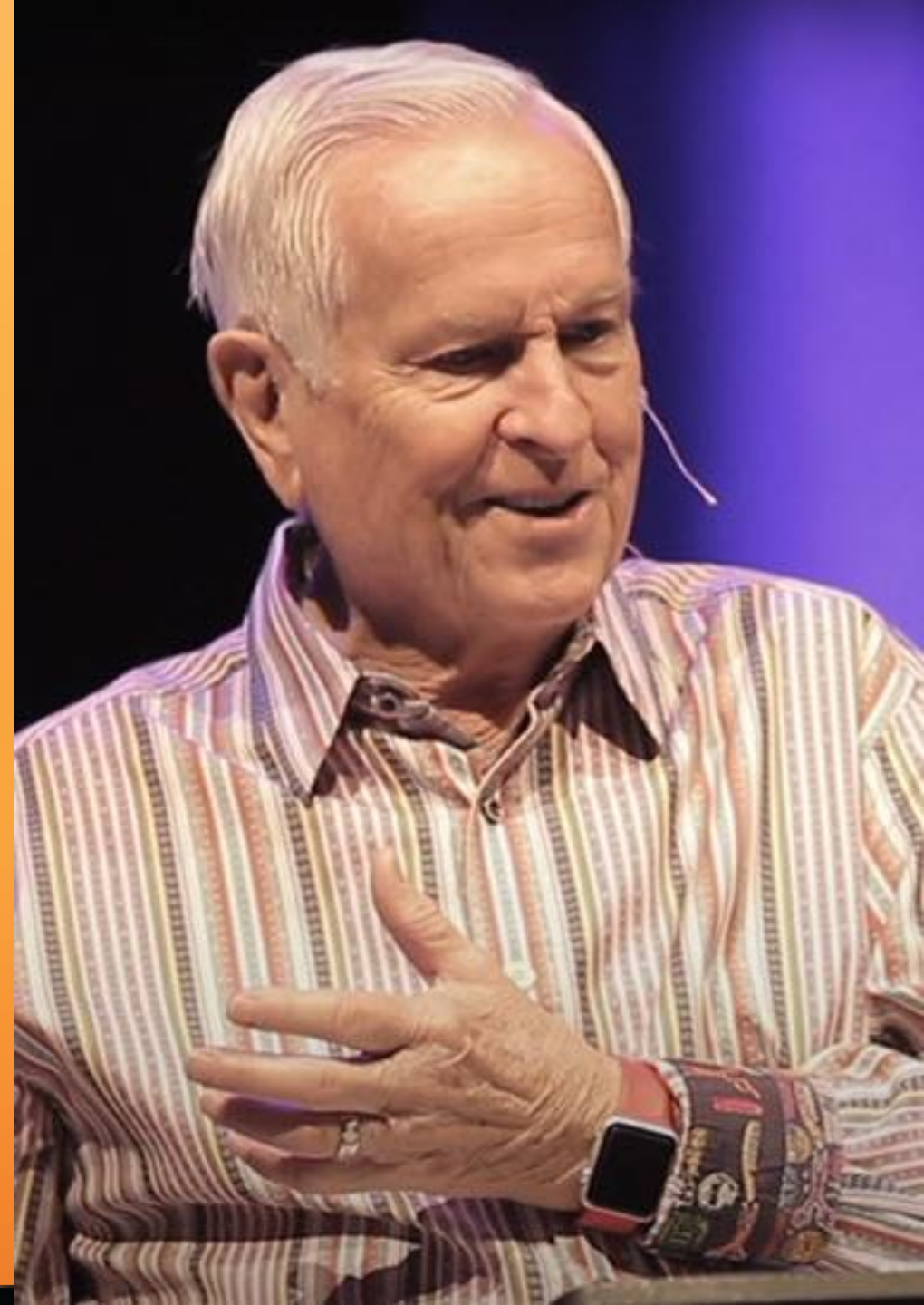
**Josh McDowell, *The New
Evidence That Demands a
Verdict***



“... (2) Fulfilled prophecy in his life; and (3) His resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus Christ and Christianity stand or fall together.

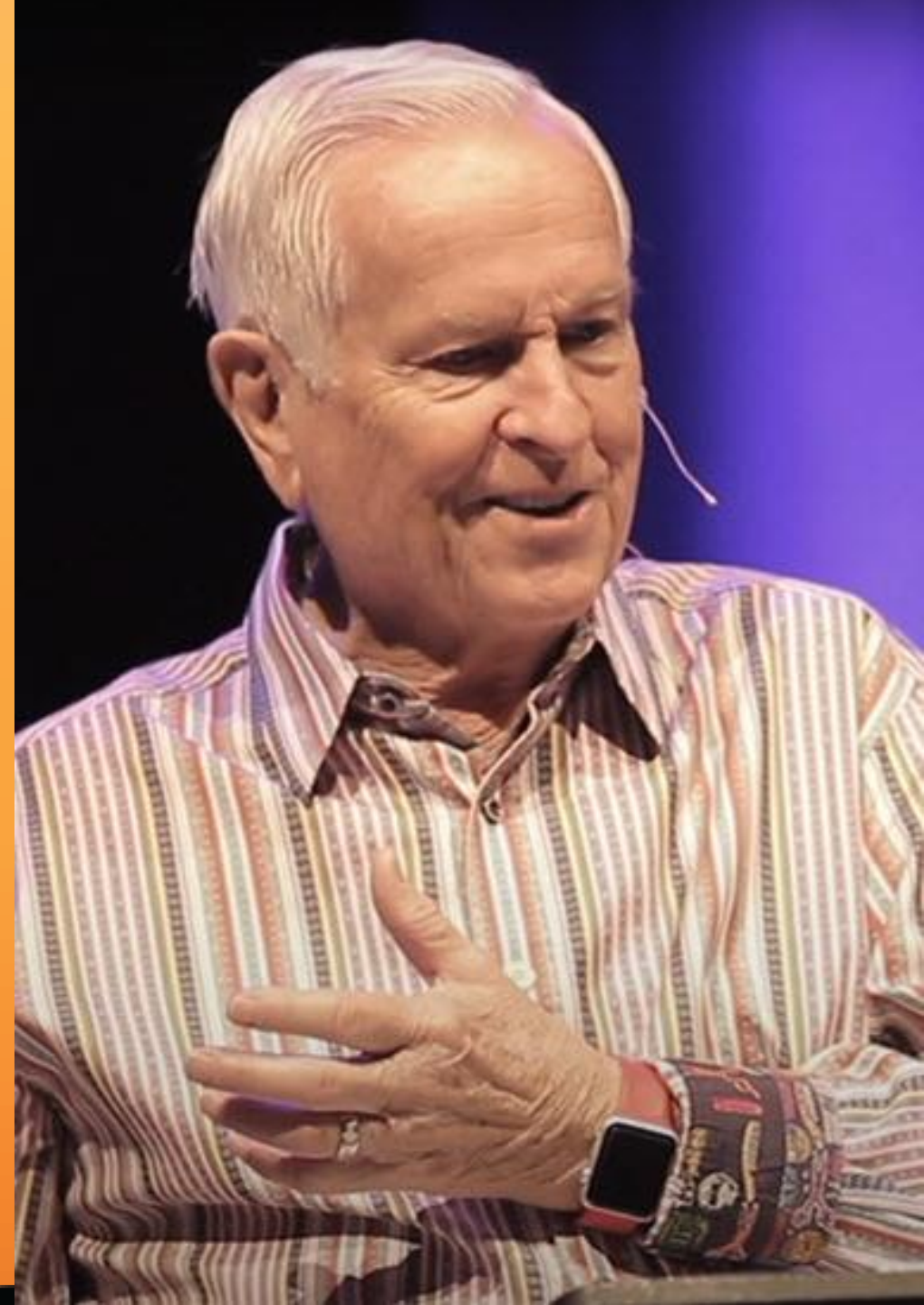
A student at the University of Uruguay once said to me:...

Josh McDowell, *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*



“...‘Professor McDowell,
why can’t you refute
Christianity?’ I answered:
‘For a very simple reason: I am
not able to explain away an
event in history – the
resurrection of Jesus.

**Josh McDowell, *The New
Evidence That Demands a
Verdict***



*And if Christ has not been raised,
then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.*

I Corinthians 15:14



- a. The view - Jesus didn't die, but fainted or swooned on the cross, and was placed in the tomb by Joseph of Arimathea, still alive

The Swoon Theory



b. Why We Reject the View

- Seems unlikely that Jesus would have NOT died – given all His physical suffering
- Steps were taken to make sure He was dead by the Roman guards
- Even if He did revive in the tomb, how would He have had the energy to move that stone? Or get out of His grave clothes? And then fight off the Roman guards?
- Jesus would have been a liar since He claimed to be risen from the dead

The Swoon Theory



- a. The view - The disciples came in the middle of the night and stole His body from the tomb.

The Theft Theory



- a. The view - The disciples came in the middle of the night and stole His body from the tomb.
- b. Why We Reject the View
 - You must still explain an empty tomb and manufacture the body of Jesus to prove His resurrection
 - Why leave the grave clothes behind?
 - The demeanor of the disciples—fear and scattering—doesn't set up well for a body-theft

The Theft Theory



- a. The view – When the disciples claimed to see a resurrected Jesus, they were hallucinating.

The Hallucination Theory



- a. The view – When the disciples claimed to see a resurrected Jesus, they were hallucinating.
- b. Why We Reject the View
 - 500 eyewitnesses
 - Terms of engaging Jesus: “*met*” (Matthew 28:9), “*saw*” (Matthew 28:17; John 20:20, 29), “*knew*” (Luke 24:31), “*beheld*” (Luke 24:37), “*see*” (Luke 24:39-40; John 20:18, 25), “*show*” (John 20:20), “*knowing*” (John 21:12), and “*appearing*” (Acts 1:3)

The Hallucination Theory



a. The view – Everyone went to the wrong tomb

The Wrong Tomb Theory



b. Why We Reject the View

- These women were at the right tomb the day before (Matthew 27:61; Mark 15:47; Luke 23:55).
- The angel invited them to come into the tomb where Jesus was (Matthew 28:6).
- If everyone went to the wrong tomb, then the religious leaders could have gone to the right tomb, and said, “See there He is!”
- Jesus showed up in bodily form to hundreds of witnesses.

The Wrong Tomb Theory



*²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.
²⁶ And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,*

Job 19:25-26



*But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,
for he will receive me. Selah*

Psalm 49:15



*Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise.
You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy!
For your dew is a dew of light,
and the earth will give birth to the dead.*

Isaiah 26:19



*² And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth
shall awake, some to everlasting life,
and some to shame and everlasting contempt.*

*³ And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of
the sky above; and those who turn many to
righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.*

Daniel 12:2-3



*²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

*²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also
the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die,
so also in Christ shall all be made alive.*

I Corinthians 15:20-22



²² Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— ²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴ God raised him up, ...

Acts 2:22-28



... loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

²⁵ For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, ...

Acts 2:22-28



... or let your Holy One see corruption.

*²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.*

Acts 2:22-28



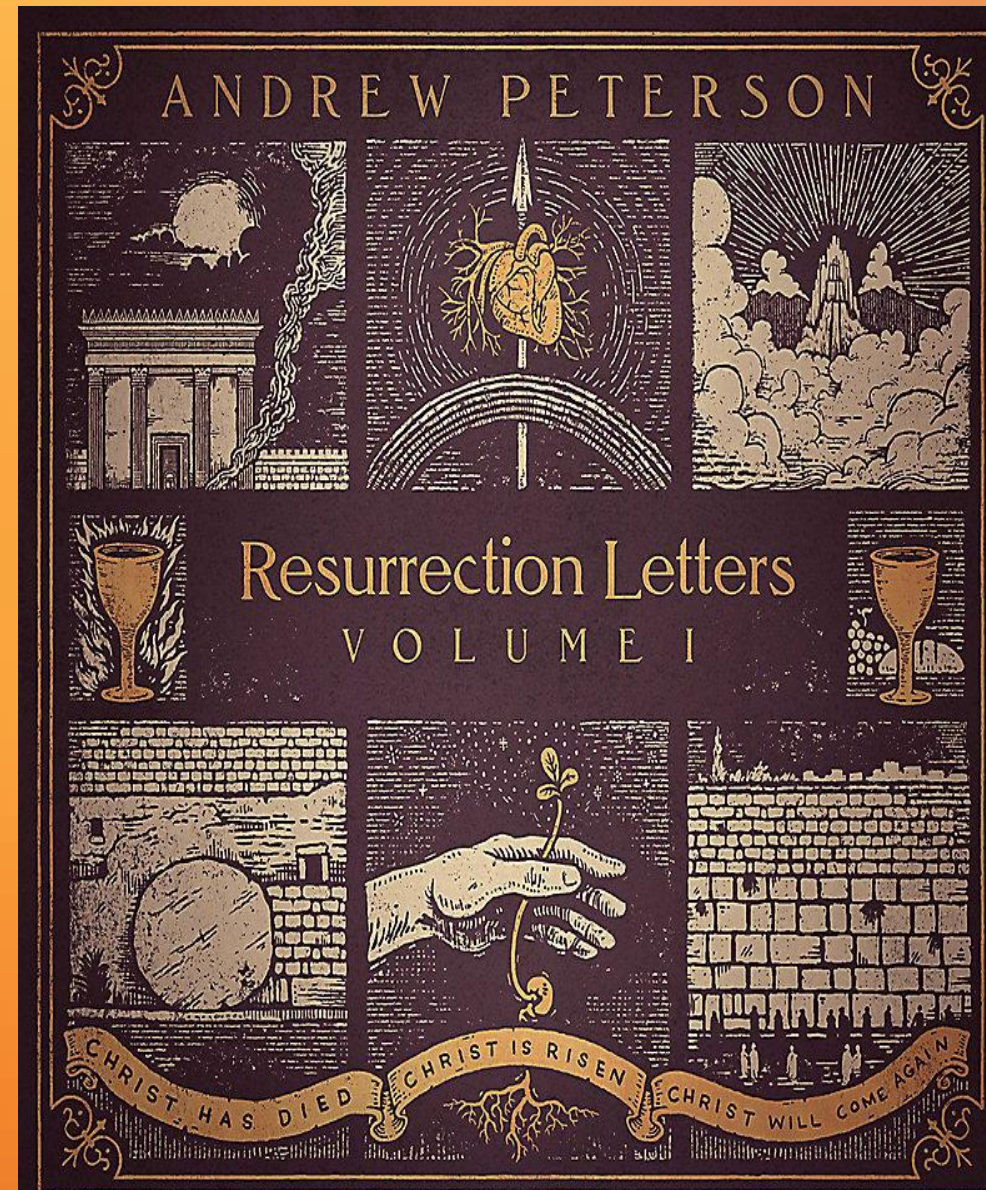
KEY POINT:

There is never the same response to miraculous events.



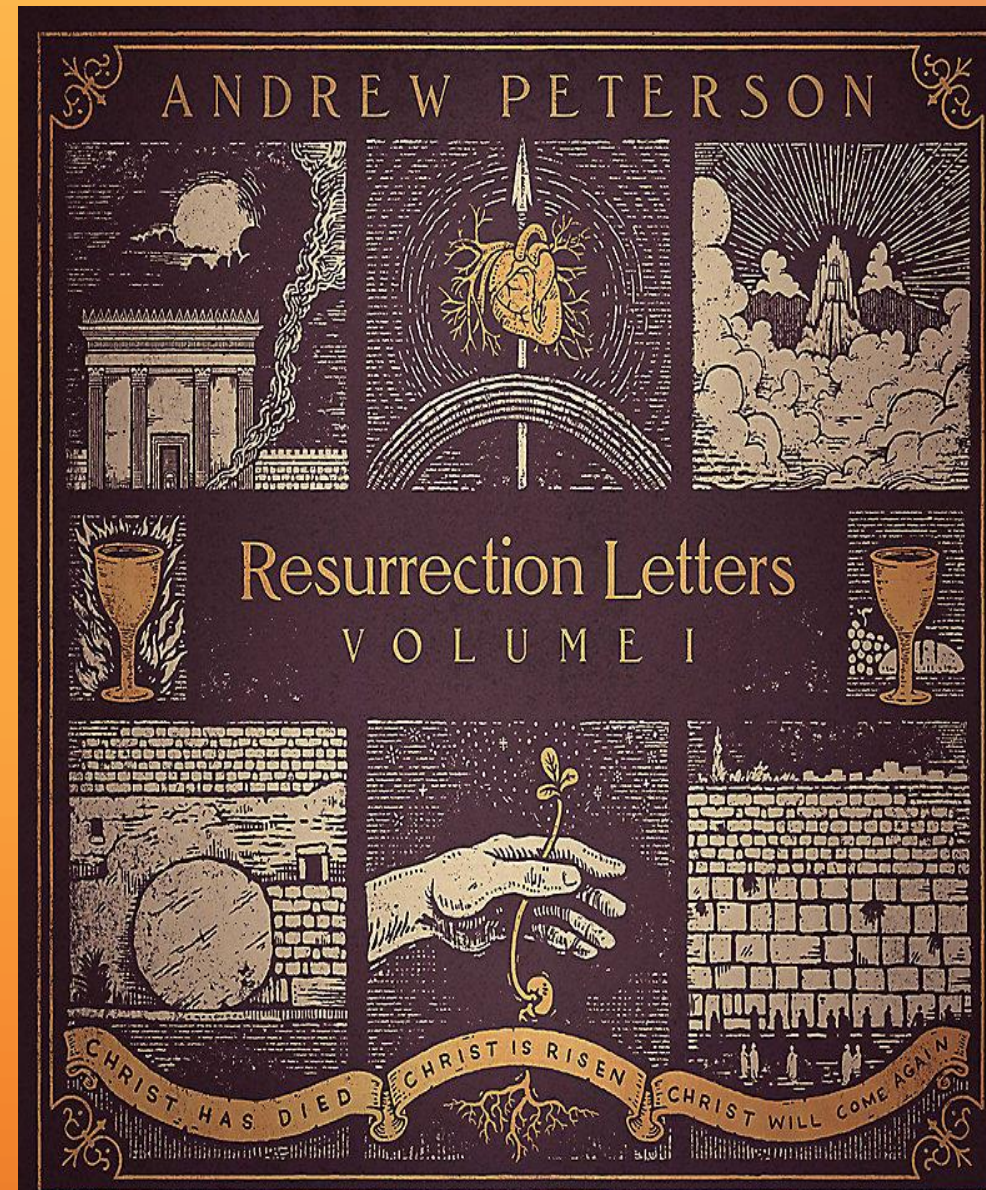
“His heart beats
His blood begins to flow
Waking up what was dead a
moment ago
And His heart beats,
Now everything is changed
'Cause the blood that brought us
peace with God
Is racing through His veins

**Andrew Peterson,
“His Heart Beats”**



“He breathes in,
His living lungs expand
The heavy air surrounding death
turns to breath again
He breathes out,
He is word and flesh once more
The Lamb of God slain for us is a
Lion ready to roar”

**Andrew Peterson,
“His Heart Beats”**



I. Look at the compassion (vs. 1).



- a. Mary Magdalene
- b. Mary, the mother of James
- c. Salome (Mark 16:1)
- d. Joanna (Luke 24:10)
- e. Other women (Luke 24:10)

The Women at the Tomb



- I. Look at the compassion (vs. 1).
- II. Look at the fear (vs. 2-7).



- a. When Moses received the law (Exodus 19:18)
- b. When God appeared to Elijah (I Kings 19:11)
- c. In the midst of a vision of God (Isaiah 29:6; Ezekiel 3:13)
- d. When Paul and Silas were in prison (Acts 16:26)
- e. In the end times (Joel 2:10; Matthew 24:7; Revelation 6:12; 8:5; 11:13-19)

Earthquakes in the Bible



“There was no ordinary earthquake but a ‘violent’ one. Death was going through an upheaval. All the bars of the tomb were beginning to burst. When the King awoke from the sleep of death, he shook the world. The bedroom in...

Charles Spurgeon



“...which he had rested for a little while trembled as the heavenly Lord arose from his couch.”

Charles Spurgeon



- I. Look at the compassion (vs. 1).
- II. Look at the fear (vs. 2-7).
- III. Look at the joy (vs. 8).



- I. Look at the compassion (vs. 1).
- II. Look at the fear (vs. 2-7).
- III. Look at the joy (vs. 8).
- IV. Look at the worship (vs. 9).



¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

Revelation 5:11-14



¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Revelation 5:11-14

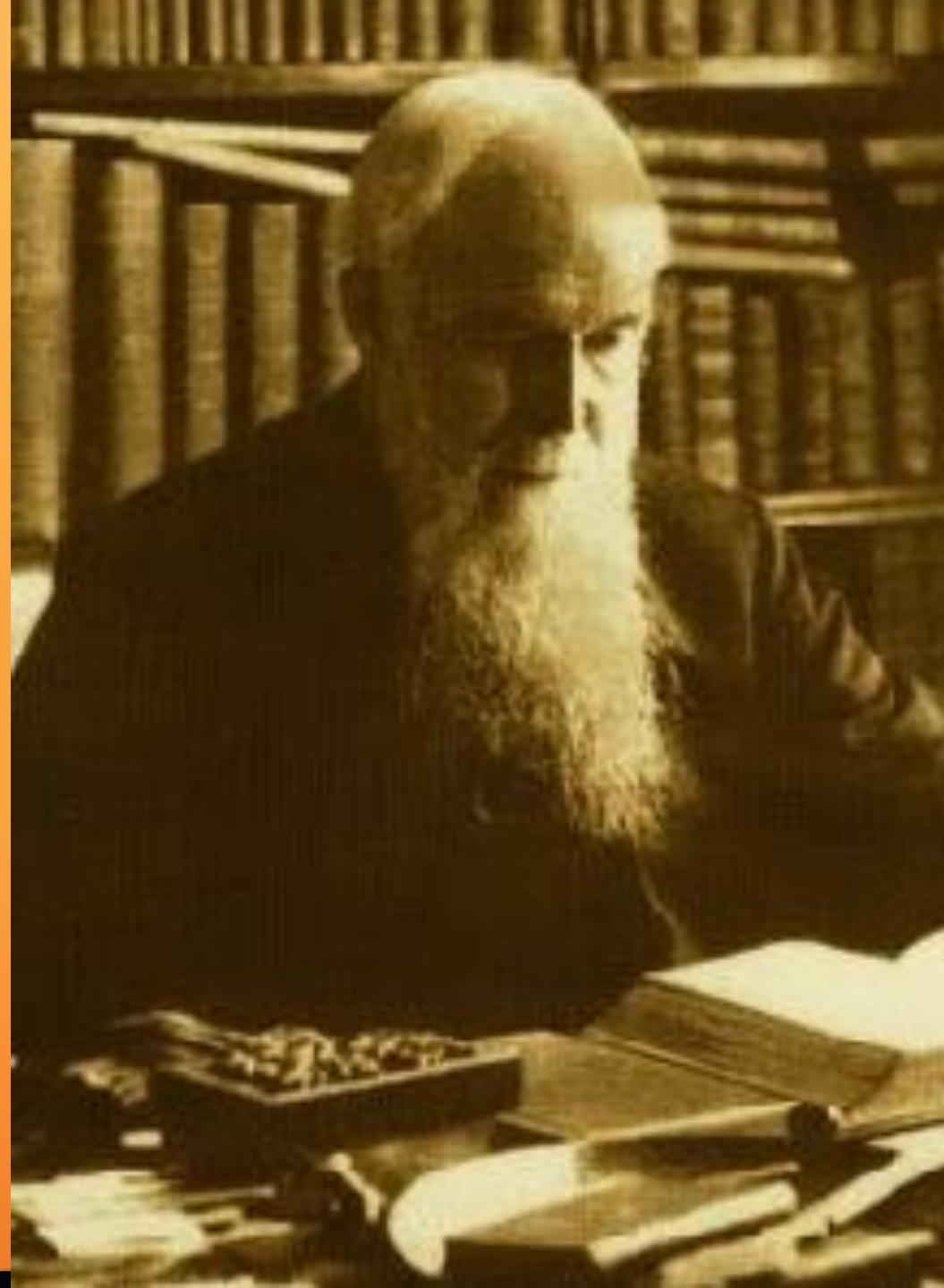


- I. Look at the compassion (vs. 1).
- II. Look at the fear (vs. 2-7).
- III. Look at the joy (vs. 8).
- IV. Look at the worship (vs. 9).
- V. Look at the hope (vs. 10).



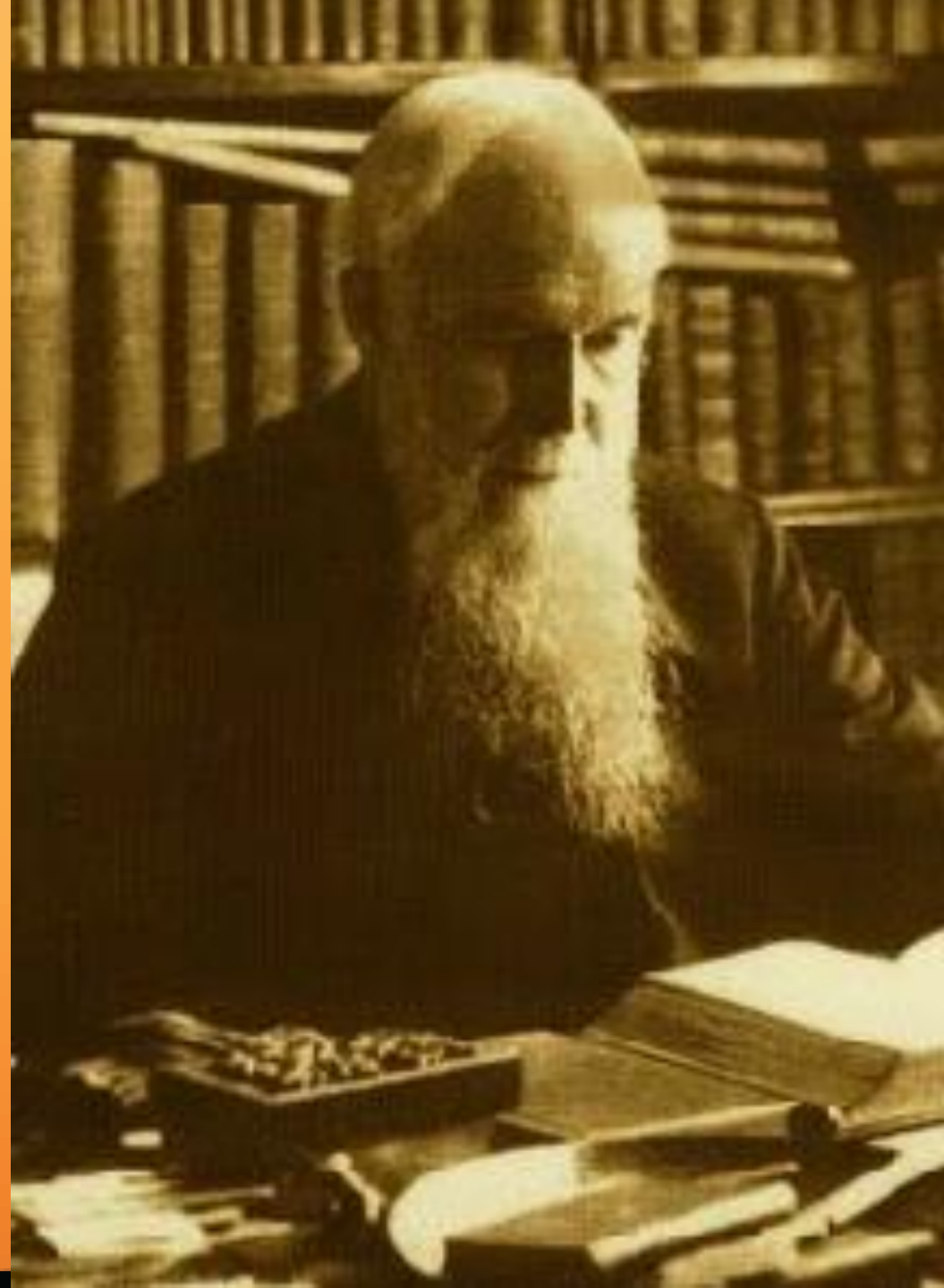
“Let us see in these words of Christ an encouragement to trust and not be afraid. Our Saviour is one who never forgets His people; He pities their infirmities; he does not despise them. He knows their weakness, and yet does...

J.C. Ryle, *Expository Thoughts on Matthew*



“...not chase them away.
Our great High Priest is also our
elder brother.”

**J.C. Ryle, *Expository
Thoughts on Matthew***



- I. Look at the compassion (vs. 1).
- II. Look at the fear (vs. 2-7).
- III. Look at the joy (vs. 8).
- IV. Look at the worship (vs. 9).
- V. Look at the hope (vs. 10).
- VI. Look at the conspiracy (vs. 11-15).



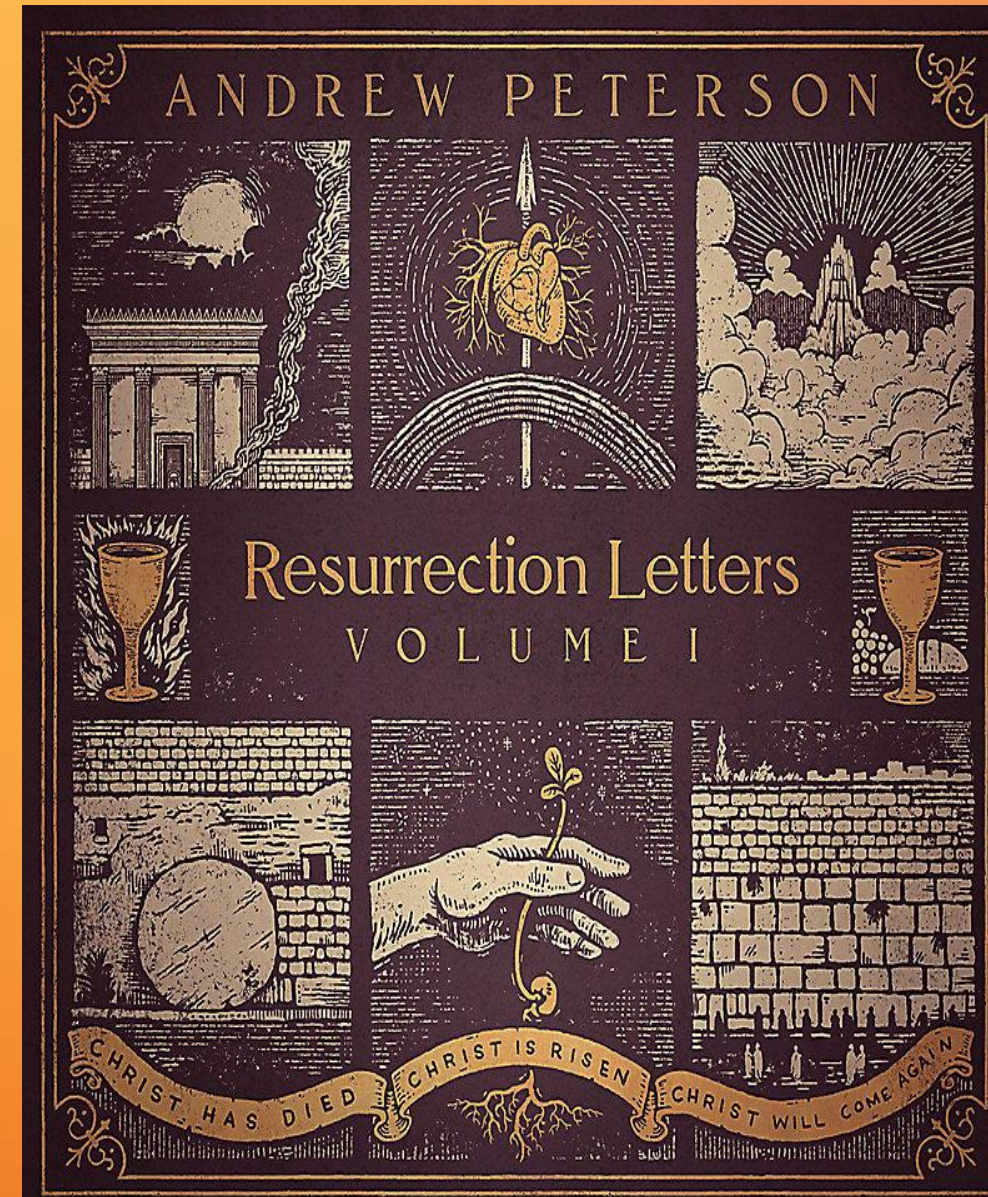
KEY POINT:

There is never the same response to miraculous events.



“He rises, glorified in flesh
Clothed in immortality,
The firstborn from the dead
He rises,
And His work's already done
So He's resting as He rises to
reclaim the Bride He won
And His heart beats

**Andrew Peterson,
“His Heart Beats”**



“His heart beats,
He will never die again
I know that death no longer has
dominion over Him
So my heart beats
With the rhythm of the saints
As I look for the seeds the King has sown
To burst up from their graves”

**Andrew Peterson,
“His Heart Beats”**

